

**VILLAGE OF BROOKFIELD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Meeting

Held at

Congress Park School – 9311 Shields Avenue, Brookfield, Illinois

March 22, 2011 – 6:03 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The March 22, 2011 meeting of the Public Safety Committee was called to order at 6:03 P.M. by Chairman Roy Lehto.

Upon Roll Call a quorum was determined.

MEMBERS PRESENT Chairman Roy Lehto, Police Department Chief Steven Stelter, Fire Department Chief Patrick Lenzi, Public Works Liaison Al Kitzer, Trustee David LeClere, Sam Lodovico and Amy Moon.

MEMBERS ABSENT None

ALSO PRESENT: Residents as noted on Sign-In Sheet which was made part of the record of this meeting

Approval of the Minutes – January 25, 2011

Motion by Sam Lodovico, seconded by Amy Moon, to approve the minutes of the Public Safety Meeting held January 25, 2011. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence – None

New Business

Request for removal of No Parking signs on Shields Between Raymond and Deyo Avenues

As request came in late, Chairman Lehto requested the item be tabled until the next meeting scheduled for May 24, 2011.

Old Business

Village Wide Parking

Chairman Lehto announced that the Village Board of Trustees requested resident input regarding certain proposed changes to street parking and that there will be another opportunity for input at a similar meeting scheduled for May 24, 2011 at Gross School. The proposed parking changes of concern are:

1. Parking only on the North and East side of streets
2. No parking allowed on the South and West side of streets
3. No parking on any residential streets during snow emergencies where there is accumulation of 3" or more
4. No parking on any residential streets on street sweeping days
5. Residents may apply for overnight parking permits at locations to be determined.

Benefits of Proposed Parking Changes:

1. Faster response time by Public Safety vehicles responding to emergencies.
2. Faster and improved snow removal
3. Faster and improved leaf removal and street sweeping which could decrease street flooding
4. Improved pedestrian and vehicle safety on residential streets, especially on residential streets less than 25' wide that are

zoned for two-way traffic and parking on both sides of the street. As it is, one vehicle must be able to pull over to allow another vehicle to proceed.

5. Improve the ease of school busses that travel and turn onto other residential streets.
6. Less vehicles parked on the street could reduce the number of vandalized vehicles.

Potential Drawbacks to Proposed Parking Changes – from Commentary of Residents at Previous Meetings:

1. Unclear where vehicles would go to park during snow emergency situations.
2. Not every resident will be able to park in front of their own property.
3. People move to Brookfield due to the availability of overnight parking.

Public Comments

Chairman Lehto announced that no decision would be made at this evening's meeting regarding Village wide parking. Results of residents comments to be reported to the Village Board who will ultimately make the decision on parking. Chairman Lehto asked those who wished to speak to announce themselves and to keep their comments as brief as possible.

Cate Hansen – 3447 Vernon: "May I ask for clarification. Do these changes apply year round, or just in winter? (Response was "year round."). Then you'll have to clear the whole street if there is 3" of snow and on street cleaning days between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Several families on our block have multiple cars. Our street was widened and I pay extra now for that. I would be against having to pay more for overnight parking. To move all cars off the streets, I don't know where people would go when there is more than 3" of snow. I think that is unreasonable. I do appreciate being able to voice our opinion and I think it would work if some smaller streets could be changed to one-way. During the last big storm I did not see any cars getting ticketed and when the plows did come through, they plowed 3' from the curb. So, the next day when we were supposed to move to the other side, we could not. On other blocks where this happened, the whole side got tickets."

Allen Goodcase – 8940 Shields: "I think its great to have these meetings but I think a 7:00 P.M. start time would be more reasonable. This is a little bit early for the working commuters. I live on a street where no parking is allowed. I can only park on the street that runs along the side of my house. I am not in favor of having any restrictions on parking on my street. I think the Board should take into account the differing widths of streets in the Village and set parking guidelines up by classes to accommodate these differing widths. A blanket rule such as No Parking on the west side, etc. would not be a good idea because of the streets with many driveways that limit parking space on the street as it is. Sometimes parking when there are parks nearby result in overflow parking when there are events."

Mary Johnson – 3240 Park Avenue: "Ours is a one-way street and both sides are filled with parked cars even though many residents have garages on that block. There is no way all those cars could be parked on the East side of the street. I don't think there was enough information on this meeting so that more people could attend nor was there an hand-out agenda. I think more people need to know about what is being planned. Where are people going to put their cars? I think you have to do provide a little more information to inform residents of the next meeting."

Marloe Kachuc – 3507 Hollywood Avenue: "We live on a curvy street that I can see how it is difficult to get by when people are parked but this happens only about two times – at 3:00 P.M. during the week when parents pick up students they line the street and then during football season everybody parks on our block. We have 24-hour parking restriction on our street and I don't think people get ticketed. So, is the new parking going to be enforced? Also, is anyone thinking about lifting the 24-hour parking restriction on Hollywood?"

Jim Carlson – 4110 Park Avenue: "I don't have an opinion one way or the other but my block is very narrow. Most have garages and the alleys are paved yet cars on parked on the block all day long. It seems people are using the blizzard as a catalyst for pro or con – but that was a very unusual situation. The streets did not get plowed because some did not move their cars at all – a plow did could not even get down our street. An emergency vehicle on our block two days ago had no place to pull over in order to help a resident. It had to be in the middle of the street for ½ hour to 45 minutes. I'm glad you are taking a look at the issue and agree that maybe you good look at it on a street-by-street basis. Also, consider that vehicles are larger and wider than

**Roy Lehto
Chairman
Public Safety Committee**

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in the past. Some pull these larger vehicles up onto the curb in order that traffic can pass – which is damaging the curbs."

Linda Hyerdahl – 4340 Madison: "I think my particular street should be a one-way street during school hours as it is dangerous to the children. I also think parking restrictions should be done on a street-by-street basis. "

NOTE: Recording stopped after 23 minutes. Thus, approximately 29 minutes of audio was lost including the motion to adjourn. If the following residents (from sign-in sheet) did speak, their comments were not recorded: Sean Shanahan – 9536 Henrietta, Deborah Mitchener – 8822 Rockfield and Craig Skweres – 4244 Park.

Next Meeting – Scheduled for May 24, 2011 at Congress Park School

Adjournment (from motion sheet)

Motion by Chief Lenzi, seconded by Chief Stelter, to adjourn the March 22, 2011 meeting of the Public Safety Committee at 6:55 P.M. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.
